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POLITICAL ECONOMY AND PUBLIC LAW SERIES.

EDMUND J. JAMES, Ph.D., Editor.

NO. 5.

PRISON STATISTICS

OF THE

UNITED STATES
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FOR 1888.

BY

ROLAND P. FALKNER, Ph.D.,

Instructor of Accounting and Statistics, University of Pennsylvania.

PHILADELPHIA.

1889.

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PRISON STATISTICS
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In the following pages an attempt has been made to present such statistics of the prisons of the United States as possess a sociological interest. This does not, it is true, entirely exhaust the reports* from which the data are drawn. These documents are largely occupied with financial showings often carefully elaborated, and very important from an administrative point of view, though they do not enter into the present discussion. The reports of the prison physicians contain, in some instances, valuable data that seem capable of contributing much to our knowledge of prison hygiene, but they are, as a rule, very scant and remarkably diversified in their plans of arrangement. The lack of uniformity conspicuous in the medical and financial portions of the reports does not make itself so strongly felt in the personal statistics of the prisoners. It has been hoped, therefore, that a col-

* The writer desires to express his thanks to the prison wardens who so kindly furnished him with the reports.

lection of these facts cannot fail to add something to our knowledge of the criminal population, and to throw some light incidentally upon problems of criminal statistics.

In confining this study to the data for state penal institutions* we have been guided primarily by the accessibility of the materials. At the same time considerations of a more theoretical nature favor the treatment of this category of prisons separately. Our state prisons have a homogeneous convict population. In some of its general tables the Tenth Census includes all prisoners, necessarily therefore some who are not serving sentences. The county jails and houses of correction deal, as a rule, with another class of offenders. The rapidly changing population due to short sentences renders the collection of accurate statistics difficult, and unfits the population of these institutions for comparison with that of the state prisons. Some of the county prisons in the more populous states approach the state institutions in size, yet their population does not essentially differ from that of smaller county jails.

At the commencement of the inquiry we are met with a diversity of the materials which for certain investigations would be fatal.

A glance at the foregoing table shows a great variety of fiscal years in the different states, dependent, presumably, upon local statutes. If our object were to compare crime in two states by the ratio of the convicts to the population, this would manifestly render the inquiry impossible, even if the line of demarcation between the state prisons and the county jails were in each the same. Our inquiry concerns rather groups of convicts in the different states at approximately

* In the following tables certain states are omitted. From Arkansas and Louisiana no replies were received. Kentucky, Iowa, and Mississippi published their last biennial reports in 1887. Georgia publishes lists but no summaries, and Oregon furnishes only a few figures for all who were at any time within two years inmates of the prison, a plan differing from that of all other states. In Rhode Island the state prison is at the same time the Providence County jail, and the data for the two are given together. Delaware appears to have no state prison. In the Elmira (N. Y.) Reformatory reports no data are given for separate years, but all inmates, since the opening of the institution, are massed together.

Table I.

Year Ends.	Mode of Enumeration.	Number.	Sex.		Per Cent.		Race.				Per Cent.				Proportion of Colored to Total Population.			
			Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	White.	Colored.	Chinese.	Indians.	Mexicans.	White.	Colored.	Chinese.		Indians.	Mexicans.	
Nov. 30.	O. H.	152	147	5	96.71	3.29	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
April 30.	O. H.	115	113	2	98.26	1.74	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
July 31.	O. H.	94	90	4	95.74	4.26	94	....	....	....	....	100	....	....	....	....	....	....
Sept. 30.	R.	160	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
“	R.	673	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
June 30.	O. H.	301	295	6	98.01	1.99	275	26	....	....	....	91.36	8.64	....	....	....	....	....
Sept. 30.	O. H.	1,405	....	....	....	....	1,320	83	....	....	....	93.95	5.91	....	....	....	....	....
“	O. H.	1,248	....	....	....	....	1,172	67	3	6	....	93.91	5.37	.24	.48	....	....	....
“	R.	253	....	....	....	....	215	18	....	....	....	92.27	7.73	....	....	....	....	....
Dec. 31.	R.	510	492	18	96.47	3.53	439	71	....	....	....	86.08	13.92	....	....	....	....	....
“	R.	266	262	4	98.50	1.50	246	20	....	....	....	92.48	7.52	....	....	....	....	....
Oct. 31.	O. H.	881	842	39	95.57	4.43	709	172	....	....	....	80.48	19.52	....	....	....	....	....
“	R.	794	771	23	97.10	2.90	654	130	....	....	....	82.37	16.37	....	....	....	....	....
“	O. H.	702	....	....	....	....	636	66	....	....	....	90.00	9.40	....	....	....	....	....
“	O. H.	539	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Sept. 30.	R.	650	637	13	98.00	2.00	586	63	1	....	....	90.16	9.69	....	....	....	....	....
“	R.	340	336	4	98.82	1.18	292	48	....	....	....	85.88	14.12	....	....	....	....	....
June 30.	R.	466	....	....	....	....	439	27	....	....	....	94.21	5.79	....	....	....	....	....
Sept. 30.	R.	211	203	8	96.21	3.79	205	3	....	....	....	97.16	1.42	....	....	....	....	....
July 31.	R.	214	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Dec. 31.	R.	1,523	1,480	43	97.18	2.82	1,099	424	....	....	....	72.16	27.84	....	....	....	....	....
June 30.	O. H.	929	....	....	....	....	770	153	....	....	....	82.88	16.47	....	....	....	....	....
Nov. 30.	R.	316	312	4	98.73	1.27	293	23	....	....	....	92.72	7.28	....	....	....	....	....
“	R.	405	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Dec. 31.	O. H.	49	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
June 30.	O. H.	1,377	....	....	....	....	1,104	16	174	20	3	84.53	1.16	12.64	1.45	.22	.7	....
“	O. H.	421	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Nov. 30.	O. H.	592	554	38	93.59	6.41	226	366	....	....	....	38.18	61.82	....	....	....	....	....
Sept. 30.	R.	372	348	24	93.55	6.45	84	288	....	....	....	22.58	77.42	....	....	....	....	....
“	R.	116	113	3	97.41	2.59	76	40	....	....	....	65.52	34.48	....	....	....	....	....
Nov. 30.	O. H.	1,363	1,323	40	97.06	2.94	380	983	....	....	....	27.88	72.12	....	....	....	....	....
“	R.	528	492	36	93.18	6.82	83	441	....	....	....	15.72	84.09	....	....	....	....	....
Oct. 31.	R.	546	514	32	94.14	5.86	35	511	....	....	....	6.41	93.59	....	....	....	....	....
Sept. 30.	O. H.	740	697	43	94.19	5.81	86	654	....	....	....	11.62	88.38	....	....	....	....	....
Oct. 31.	O. H.	3,392	3,271	31	99.06	.94	1,316	1,620	....	....	....	39.85	49.06	....	....	....	....	....

NOTE. O. H. signifies the number remaining on hand at the end of the year; R. those received during the year or other period.
 * From Scribner's Statistical Atlas. † 21 months. ‡ 2 years.

the same time, and hence such differences as are here observed can have no appreciable effect upon the results.

Of a more serious nature is the difference arising from two distinct modes of counting the prisoners, one plan taking the population at a given time, and the other giving the number received during the year. General reasons may be brought forward for each method. Where it is desired to compare the prison population with that of the country at large the former method is appropriate, and is followed in the census. A closer study of the prison population, following it from year to year, observing its increase or decrease, and its connection with other events of the same period, as, for instance, industrial crises or prolonged strikes, necessitates the latter method. For our purposes, therefore, this has seemed preferable, and where there has been room for choice it has been selected. But in few instances was this the case. In general, one is obliged to follow the method of each report. Nor does any underlying purpose in the selection of one or the other appear. It seems to be mere accident, and in New York, indeed, Clinton prison follows a different rule from the other state prisons. As the lack of uniformity exists it becomes necessary to estimate as far as possible the effect of the two methods upon the results obtained. It affects most conspicuously the sentences, the proportion of longer sentences being greater where the population at a given time is enumerated, and in the other case the proportion of shorter terms being larger. If figures are needed to support such a self-evident proposition, they are abundantly found in a comparison of the two plans where they exist, side by side, in the same prison. We give the numerical proportion of each sentence being served to the total number of sentences.

	Under 1 Year.	1	2	3	4	5	6-10	10-15	15-20	20-30	30 and more.	Life.
Massachusetts, O.H.*....	....	.18	.53	18.44	12.59	20.39	17.73	12.77	4.08	2.66	.35	10.28
" R.....	....	.63	....	33.13	20.00	21.25	10.62	8.12	1.87	3.75	....	.63
Illinois, Joliet, O.H....	.07	23.23	13.07	14.02	5.35	10.15	9.76	10.31	4.02	4.55	.99	4.48
" R.....	.15	52.62	16.62	11.38	2.31	6.46	4.15	2.16	.61	1.39	.46	1.69

* Here as elsewhere the figures relate to the year 1888, as in Table I, unless otherwise indicated.

It may be added also that in the first case the average sentence at Joliet was 5 years 6 months and 17 days, and in the second, 2 years 4 months 24 days. Now, it must be clear that this fundamental difference of the two modes of enumeration, as to sentences, must entail differences in other respects. Thus, for instance, a detailed examination of the crimes committed would in all probability show a greater proportion of the graver crimes by the first method, and of the lesser crimes by the second method of enumeration. Thus crimes against the person are, in the first case, 26.77 per cent of all in Massachusetts, and in the second 15.63; and at Joliet we have the relations 17.08 and 23.94 in the respective cases. Beyond this we cannot pursue our investigations for lack of sufficient data. The different methods bring about dissimilar results when applied to the age of the convicts. In the following figures we give the percentage of each age in the total number.

	Under 20	20-25	25-30	30-40	40-50	50-60	60-70	Over 70
Massachusetts, O.H..	2.84	18.26	21.28	31.38	15.96	7.98	1.42	.88
" R.....	11.25	30.00	20.00	23.12	11.87	3.75	....	....
Winconsin, O.H.	8.46	42.70		24.89	9.56	8.68	4.12	1.60
" R.....	9.48	46.45		26.54	9.00	5.69	2.37	.47

One cause of difference is manifestly the time already passed in confinement, which the census gave as one year and nine months in 1880. In some prisons the figures given

are for the time of entrance in the institution; but where this is not expressed it must be supposed that this is not the case. The time spent in confinement seems to explain sufficiently such differences as we meet in the Wisconsin prison. On the other hand, it would seem insufficient in Massachusetts unless the sentences there are very severe. One is almost tempted to suppose that the older prisoners commit the more heinous offences, and hence receive the longest sentences. Yet such evidence as I have been able to collect does not support this view. Taking the length of the sentence, as a rough measure of the gravity of the offence, I have taken the average age of those convicted for each term in the Eastern Penitentiary of Pennsylvania with the following result:—

	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5	6-10	10-15	Total.
Number.....	6	261	99	59	27	26	17	15	510
Average age under each term, years.	30.0	29.02	31.63	29.55	31.44	31.69	32.82	27.57	29.95

In these varying figures one seeks in vain the corroboration of the proposed explanation. Differences between the two methods of enumeration seem to be, more or less, directly traceable to the fact that one emphasizes the long-term prisoners more than the other. Hence, any influence upon other matters to be considered in this study, as sex, race, conjugal condition, occupation, and so forth, is not to be assumed without direct positive proofs which are lacking.

If we proceed now to an examination of Table I, we find the greatest number of female convicts in North Carolina, where they form, however, only 6.82 per cent of the total number. The percentage of female prisoners is low in the United States, having been in 1880 only 9.33 per cent of all prisoners, whereas, in Europe it varies from 7.0 per cent in England (1886-87) to 15.7 per cent in France (1881) for the penitentiaries. Compare now with these ratios the

figures of the table, and we find that they fall much below the figures for the United States. In some cases where no figures are given the presumption is that the population is wholly male. Two things may explain this difference. It may be that the states, as a rule, provide other means for the incarceration of women, as in county prisons. Or, again, women may not participate relatively so much in crimes of a heinous nature as in less serious offences. The latter aspect of the case receives corroboration from the census, which showed that in 1880 women composed only 2.78 per cent of the prisoners having sentences of one year or more, but 20.12 per cent of those serving sentences of less than a year. Passing again to the table we observe that the highest percentages of women are to be found in the southern states.

In respect to races, the most important point is the negro's known tendency to crime. In order to appreciate its extent, we must compare the percentages here shown with the percentage of negroes in the general population. To facilitate this comparison, a column giving this percentage has been added to the table. Throughout we find the percentage of colored prisoners much greater than that of the colored population. Except where the latter is very large, as in the southern states, the former is generally more than double its size.

A most cursory examination of the data relating to age shows that the prisoners are, as a rule, in the prime of life. There are but few prisons in which more than half the inmates are not less than 30 years of age. The higher age classes are not so well represented among the prisoners as in the general population. From facts similar to these, in Belgium, Quetelet deduced a greater tendency to crime in youth than in riper years. On the other hand it seems quite probable that the mortality of the criminal classes is less favorable than the general rate. This offers an easy and matter-of-fact explanation of this generally observed phenomenon; yet, to support either hypothesis with figures presents grave diffi-

AGE.

Table II.

Age.	Maine.	New Hampshire.	Vermont.†	Massachusetts.	Mass. Reformatory (1).	Connecticut.	New York, Sing Sing.	New York, Auburn.	New York, Clinton.	Pennsylvania, Eastern.	Pennsylvania, Western.*	New Jersey.	Ohio.†	Indiana, North.†	Indiana, South.†	Illinois, Joliet.	Illinois, Chester.	Michigan.
Under 20.	22	7	3	18	182	28	192	87	24	57	35	119	110	76	124	98	53	17
20-25.	32	60	18	48	145	145	493	344	63	134	57	238	263	194	135	338	176	61
25-30.	36	60	23	32	101	145	304	298	52	111	68	137	159	179	113	338	176	130
30-35.	17	25	19	37	66	74	160	306	26	68	40	213	163	74	52	134	69	81
35-40.	14	25	11	60	60	74	93	306	21	54	23	213	163	73	42	134	69	63
40-50.	20	16	15	19	43	30	124	141	29	57	24	111	62	63	49	56	20	67
50-60.	6	7	4	6	7	24	30	45	11	22	10	48	21	34	15	21	15	33
60-70.	3	7	1	..	3	24	9	21	4	7	9	14	15	3	8	2	5	13
Over 70.	2	7	1	..	3	24	...	6	3	...	..	1	1	6	1	1	2	1
Per Cent.																		
Under 20.	14.47	6.09	3.19	11.25	29.98	9.30	13.97	6.97	10.30	11.18	13.16	13.51	13.85	10.83	23.01	15.08	15.59	3.65
20-25.	21.05	52.17	19.16	30.00	23.89	48.17	35.09	27.56	27.03	26.27	21.43	27.01	33.12	27.63	25.05	52.00	51.76	13.09
25-30.	23.68	52.17	24.46	20.00	16.64	48.17	21.64	23.88	22.32	21.76	25.56	15.55	20.03	25.50	20.96	52.00	51.76	27.90
30-35.	11.18	21.74	20.21	23.12	10.87	24.59	11.38	24.52	11.16	13.33	15.04	24.18	20.53	10.54	9.65	20.62	20.29	17.38
35-40.	9.22	21.74	11.70	23.12	9.89	24.59	6.62	24.52	9.01	10.59	8.65	24.18	20.53	10.40	7.79	20.62	20.29	13.52
40-50.	13.16	13.91	15.96	11.87	7.09	9.97	8.83	11.31	12.45	11.18	9.02	12.60	7.81	8.97	9.09	8.62	5.88	14.38
50-60.	3.95	6.09	4.26	3.75	1.15	7.97	2.14	3.61	4.72	4.31	3.76	5.45	2.64	4.85	2.78	3.23	4.41	7.08
60-70.	1.97	6.09	1.06	..	.49	7.97	.63	1.68	1.72	1.38	3.38	1.59	1.89	.43	1.48	.31	1.47	2.79
Over 70.	1.32	6.09	1.06	..	..	..	..	.49	1.29	..	..	.11	.13	.85	.19	.14	.60	.21

Totals: (1) 607. (2) 690, the age of 50 prisoners being unknown. Irregular totals are indicated throughout in this way. * The first column includes all under 21 instead of 20. † These institutions report the ages inclusive of the higher number as 21-25, 26-30, 31-35, etc., and thus differ from the others. ‡ Age when committed.

Table II. Continued.

AGE.

Age.	Wisconsin.	Minnesota.	Missouri.	Kansas.	Nebraska.	Colorado.	Nevada. [†]	California, San Quentin.	California, Folsom.	Maryland.	Virginia.	West Virginia.	Tennessee.	North Carolina.	South Carolina.	Alabama (2).	Texas.
Under 20.	20	29	320	187	41	52	{ 31	105	.	105	94	.	.	172	160	95	616
20-25.	{ 98	60	441	290	83	104	25	297	.	182	82	.	.	{ 230	{ 275	207	1086
25-30.	{ 56	51	344	179	87	100	25	283	.	118	51	.	.	.	.	129	728
30-35.	{ 56	{ 46	143	{ 273	{ 57	49	{ 28	207	.	78	35	.	.	{ 62	{ 65	86	377
35-40.	.	.	113			48		172	.	54	42	.	.			52	209
40-50.	19	20	104	{ 273	25	40	6	215	.	30	41	.	.	35	26	69	193
50-60.	12	6	46		15	9	7	74	.	18	21	.	.	27	{ 20	34	60
60-70.	5	2	9		7	3	2	18	.	6	6	.	.	2		13	26
Over 70.	1	.	3		1	...	.	6	.	1	.	.	.	...		5	7

Per Cent.																	
Under 20.	9.48	13.55	21.01	20.13	12.97	12.84	{ 31.32	7.63	.	17.74	25.27	.	.	32.58	29.30	13.77	18.65
20-25.	{ 46.45	28.04	28.96	31.22	26.27	25.68	21.57	21.57	.	30.74	22.04	.	.	{ 43.56	{ 50.37	30.00	32.89
25-30.	.	23.83	22.59	19.27	27.53	24.69	25.15	20.55	.	19.93	13.71	.	.			18.70	22.05
30-35.	{ 26.54	{ 21.50	9.39	{ 29.38	{ 18.04	12.10	{ 28.28	15.03	.	13.18	9.41	.	.	{ 11.74	{ 11.90	12.46	11.42
35-40.	.	.	7.42			11.85		12.49	.	9.12	11.29	.	.			7.54	6.32
40-50.	9.00	9.35	6.83	{ 29.38	7.91	9.88	6.06	15.61	.	5.07	11.02	.	.	6.64	4.76	10.00	5.84
50-60.	5.69	2.80	3.02		4.75	2.22	7.07	5.37	.	3.04	5.65	.	.	{ 5.11	{ 3.67	4.93	1.82
60-70.	2.37	.93	.59		2.22	.74	2.02	1.31	.	1.01	1.61	.	.			1.88	.79
Over 70.	.47	....	.19		.31	....	....	.44	.	.17	....	.	.	....		.72	.21

Totals: (1) 697. (2) 690, the age of 50 prisoners being unknown. Irregular totals are indicated throughout in this way. * The first column includes all under 21 instead of 20. † These institutions report the ages inclusive of the higher number as 21-25, 26-30, 31-35, etc., and thus differ from the others. ‡ Age when committed.

culties. It needs little insight to comprehend that by the time a man reaches forty years of age his mode of life is so well settled that, unless already a criminal, his temptation to crime is very slight. On the other hand, it may well be doubted whether any considerable number of hardened criminals, whose frames are apt to be broken by disease, dissipation, and the rigors of prison life, live much beyond this period. Two causes, therefore, operate to bring about the result observed in the tables, although there seems to be no method of measuring their relative force.

The foreign element in its relation to crime is a matter deserving special study. The foreign born furnish a larger quota to our prisons than the native born, as appears, indeed, from a casual glance at our table. In but a few states is the percentage of the foreigners, in the population at large, greater than in the prisons, and in most cases it is less. At the same time the margin of difference is slight. In fact, the census of 1880 showed that the foreign born do not participate relatively so strongly in the grave crimes as in the less serious offences. Whereas the foreign born made up 21.84 per cent of the prison population, they composed only 14.42 per cent of those serving sentences of at least one year's duration; but, on the other hand, as much as 35.96 per cent of those serving shorter terms. If the length of the sentence be taken as a measure of the severity of the crime, it would appear that the foreign born are less prone to commit grave offences than the native white, as their terms are shorter.* While the fact of greater criminality among the foreign born is well established, it does not apply equally to all elements of the foreign population, some of which evince a greater respect for the law than the native-born American. Our table makes a relatively bad showing for the foreign born in the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Michigan. These are all states in which the British-American element is well represented, forming in Michigan 38.14 per

* Tenth Census, Vol. xxi, page lii.

	Total.	In State.	In Rest of U. S.	Total.	Ireland.	Germany.	England and Wales.	British America.	China.	Scotland.	Mexico.	Scandinavia.	France.	Italy.	Switzerland.	Austria.	Poland.	Russia.	Spain.	South America.	Other Countries.	Unknown.	Native.	Foreign.	In State.	In Other States.	Percentage of Foreign Born to Total Population of U. S., 1880.*	Percentage of those Born in Other States to Total Population of U. S., 1880.
Maine.....	118	98	20	34	8	1	4	16	...	1	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	77.06	22.34	83.05	16.95	9.1	4.6
New Hampshire.....	81	...	...	34	9	4	7	10	...	2	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	70.43	29.57	...	...	13.3	13.6
Vermont.....	73	44	29	21	5	4	4	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	77.06	22.34	60.27	...	12.3	...
Massachusetts.....	113	64	49	47	13	2	12	23	...	1	...	3	1	...	2	1	1	1	1	1	5	...	70.63	29.37	56.04	43.36	24.9	18.8
Reformatory (1)	470	375	95	136	63	3	31	23	...	...	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	76.74	23.26	79.79	20.21	...	...
Connecticut.....	231	128	103	70	30	10	7	7	...	1	...	4	1	6	1	1	1	1	1	2	...	...	76.74	23.26	55.41	44.59	20.9	19.0
New York, Sing Sing.....	1,010	842	168	395	126	96	51	11	...	7	1	9	8	45	5	3	12	4	10	2	5	...	71.89	28.11	83.37	16.63	...	...
" Auburn.....	923	733	190	325	93	75	31	42	...	3	5	4	10	41	4	2	6	2	1	1	2	...	73.96	26.04	79.41	20.59	23.8	8.1
" Clinton.....	174	135	39	58	13	13	6	6	...	1	...	3	7	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	...	1	75.00	25.00	77.59	22.41	...	...
Pennsylvania, Eastern.....	388	267	121	122	37	37	10	3	...	5	...	2	3	14	1	1	6	1	1	1	...	...	76.08	23.92	68.81	31.19	...	...
" Western.....	205	146	59	61	13	19	16	4	...	2	...	2	2	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	77.07	22.93	71.22	28.78	13.7	8.6
New Jersey.....	628	370	369	253	76	80	32	4	...	6	...	9	6	23	3	2	1	2	1	1	5	...	71.28	28.72	50.80	49.20	19.6	21.2
Ohio.....	718	379	348	76	15	21	11	19	...	1	...	3	1	4	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	90.43	9.57	51.53	48.47	12.3	15.8
Indiana, North.....	624	300	324	78	18	23	13	11	...	3	...	1	1	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	88.80	11.11	48.08	51.92	...	...
" South.....	505	273	232	34	7	17	3	2	...	1	...	1	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	93.69	6.31	54.06	45.94	7.3	26.2
Illinois, Joliet.....	486	183	303	164	32	48	17	27	...	1	...	1	16	2	5	2	6	1	1	2	1	1	74.77	25.23	37.65	62.35	...	...
" Chester.....	312	145	167	27	4	11	1	1	...	3	...	2	2	2	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	92.04	7.96	46.47	53.53	19.0	31.5
Michigan.....	319	...	...	147	18	21	17	58	...	8	...	6	2	2	2	1	2	5	5	...	...	...	68.45	31.55	...	...	23.7	...
Wisconsin.....	151	54	97	60	11	20	8	6	...	3	...	6	...	...	2	...	2	...	1	1	...	...	71.56	28.44	35.76	64.24	30.8	23.9
Minnesota.....	152	26	126	62	5	21	8	14	...	...	...	14	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	71.03	28.97	17.11	82.89	34.3	41.1
Missouri.....	1,373	611	762	141	29	52	15	14	...	4	2	9	4	4	1	2	1	1	1	2	2	6	90.51	9.49	44.50	55.50	9.8	33.1
Kansas.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nebraska.....	242	7	235	74	12	23	8	14	...	2	...	6	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	76.58	23.42	2.89	97.11	11.1	75.6
Colorado.....	302	6	295	103	24	14	19	14	...	2	...	9	5	5	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	74.57	25.43	2.92	97.08	20.5	82.0
Nevada.....	66	...	60	33	8	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	66.67	33.33	9.09	90.91	41.2	63.6
California, San Quentin.....	826	305	521	551	78	55	38	173	15	42	13	17	20	9	1	6	2	...	...	...	...	...	59.99	40.01	36.92	63.08	33.9	43.0
" Folsom.....	255	76	179	166	37	25	9	20	3	16	6	6	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	7	...	60.57	39.43	29.80	70.20	...	...
Maryland.....	551	351	200	41	6	14	5	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	93.07	6.93	63.70	36.30	8.9	10.5
Virginia.....	367	316	51	5	1	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	98.06	1.94	86.10	13.90	1.0	3.5
West Virginia.....	114	51	63	2	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	98.28	1.72	44.74	55.26	3.0	33.8
Tennessee.....	1,338	859	479	25	3	5	4	4	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	98.17	1.83	64.20	35.80	1.1	13.9
North Carolina.....	523	440	83	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	99.05	.95	84.13	15.87	.3	3.7
South Carolina.....	546	494	52	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100.00	...	90.48	9.52	.8	3.7
Alabama.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Texas.....	2,854	1,348	1,506	448	54	35	46	22	...	6	251	3	6	...	1	10	6	2	2	1	...	...	86.44	13.56	47.23	52.77	7.2	39.8

Total: (1) 606. * From Scribner's Statistical Atlas.

cent of the foreign population, and in the three other states combined 60 85 per cent of it. In the middle states, again, there is a considerable difference between the percentages of foreign born in the population and in the prisons, due to the prominence of the Irish element. In California the Chinese, and in Texas the Mexicans, contribute largely to the prisons, and thus create the differences observed here between the percentages presented. In the southern states the foreign population is inappreciable. There remain, therefore, the states west of the Mississippi, where there is scarcely any perceptible difference between foreign and native born, or where, indeed, the native born make a worse showing. The latter include the states of Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Nevada. For the last named the reason is not clear, and because of the unsettled condition of the country, it is quite possible that the figures for 1880 do not represent the actual state of affairs today. In the northwest the predominance of the Scandinavian element among the foreign born explains the favorable showing of the latter. In Ohio also, and this seems to be an anomaly, there is a more favorable showing for the foreign born than for the native. The largest element of its foreign population is the German. The Germans have the same ratio to crime as the native born, according to the Tenth Census, and hence their presence should not affect the general result. It may be, however, that Ohio Germans are particularly law-abiding. If the ratios for the country at large are applicable to Ohio, we should have for 718 native-born prisoners 49 Germans, instead of which there are but 21.

There are data in a few reports which permit a glance at the percentage of prisoners. They are comprised in the small table below, with the necessary data for comparisons.

These figures show that in Massachusetts the native stock is less disposed to crime than that of foreign abstraction, even in the case of mixed parentage where the foreign stock has come into contact with our civilization. Unfortunately, the census contains no figures for Illinois. If what we have

	Convicts.				Population, 1880.		
	Native.	Foreign.	Mixed.	Unknown.	Native.	Foreign.	Mixed.
Mass. Reformatory. Number	127	388	73	18	902,354	798,652	82,079
“ “ Per cent	20.96	64.03	12.04	2.97	50.6	44.8	4.6
Illinois, Joliet. Number.....	280	307	51	9	.....	.....	.....
“ “ Per cent.....	43.27	47.45	7.88	1.39	.....	.....	.....
Wisconsin. Number.....	79	106	19	7	364,248	856,828	94,321
“ Per cent	37.44	50.24	9.00	3.32	27.7	65.1	7.2
Minnesota. Number.....	84	129	1	....	222,469	507,670	50,634
“ Per cent.....	39.25	60.28	.47	....	28.5	65.0	6.5

presented for Wisconsin and Minnesota represent the actual state of affairs, it shows badly for the native stock in comparison with the foreign, recruited largely from the law-abiding Scandinavians. On the other hand, the growth of those states in population has been very great since 1880, although all data are lacking to show whether the relative proportions of foreign and native elements may have been changed.

Inter-state emigration is one of the characteristic features of our population. In relation to crime it will readily be admitted that those who live in the state in which they are born are a more stable element of the community, and less apt to be drawn into crime, than those who, for one reason or another, have changed their habitation. This would seem to be fully corroborated by the figures of the table. Everywhere we find those born in other states much more strongly represented in the prisons than in the population generally. The figures would be striking indeed did we not remember that among those who are born in other states children and young people who do not contribute to the prisons are in vastly smaller proportions than among those born in the state. Even after making allowances for this fact the figures are not without meaning, and show a slight evil connected with the diffusion of the population throughout the country.

An examination of Table IV, relating to conjugal condi-

Table IV. CONJUGAL CONDITIONS.

	Conjugal Condition.				Per Cent.			
	Single.	Married.	Widowers and Widows.	Divorced.	Single.	Married.	Widowers and Widows.	Divorced.
Maine.....	....	....	....	..	....	....	....	....
New Hampshire.....	68	47	..	..	59.13	40.87	....	....
Vermont.....	49	39	6	..	52.13	41.49	6.38	....
Massachusetts.....	....	....	....	..	....	....	....	....
" Reformatory.....	....	....	....	..	....	....	....	....
Connecticut.....	....	....	....	..	....	....	....	....
New York, Sing Sing..	....	....	....	..	....	....	....	....
" Auburn....	846	402	..	..	67.79	32.21	....	....
" Clinton.....	....	....	....	..	....	....	....	....
Pennsylvania, Eastern..	....	....	....	..	....	....	....	....
" Western..	163	93	10	..	61.28	34.96	3.76	....
New Jersey.....	....	....	....	..	....	....	....	....
Ohio.....	487	250	36	21	61.33	31.49	4.53	2.65
Indiana, North.....	487	215	..	..	69.37	30.63	....	....
" South.....	325	179	35	..	60.30	33.21	6.49	....
Illinois, Joliet.....	....	....	....	..	....	....	....	....
" Chester.....	....	....	....	..	....	....	....	....
Michigan.....	210	203	53	..	45.06	43.56	11.38	....
Wisconsin.....	63	139	7	2	29.86	65.88	3.32	.94
Minnesota.....	156	52	6	..	72.90	24.30	2.80	....
Missouri.....	1,119	404	..	..	73.47	26.53	....	....
Kansas.....	....	....	....	..	....	....	....	....
Nebraska.....	218	98	..	..	68.99	31.01	....	....
Colorado.....	317	71	17	..	78.27	17.53	4.20	....
Nevada.....	79	14	6	..	79.80	14.14	6.06	....
California, San Quentin	1,066	268	43	..	77.42	19.46	3.12	....
" Folsom.....	....	....	....	..	....	....	....	....
Maryland.....	412	162	18	..	69.59	27.36	3.05	....
Virginia.....	267	105	..	..	71.77	28.23	....	....
West Virginia.....	....	....	....	..	....	....	....	....
Tennessee.....	811	487	65	..	59.50	35.73	4.77	....
North Carolina.....	315	188	24	1	59.66	35.61	4.55	.18
South Carolina.....	....	....	....	..	....	....	....	....
Alabama.....	....	....	....	..	....	....	....	....
Texas.....	2,025	1,146	131	..	61.32	34.71	3.97	....

tion, gives us a slight glimpse of the home life of the convict. We find throughout a very large percentage of unmarried. Undoubtedly, the temptations peculiar to married life are small in comparison with its safe-guards, and hence we need not be surprised to find a relatively small percentage of

married persons among criminals. On the other hand, the life which the criminal leads would hardly be favorable to marriage, and this influence would, unquestionably, operate with the restraints of the married state to make the percentage of married among the convicts small. In general, it may be said that the number of unmarried convicts averages highest in the states of the far West, a fact explained by the greater difficulty of contracting marriage when the male element so strongly predominates. Thus, in Colorado, where the percentage of unmarried convicts is very high, there were, in 1880, 2.74 men of the age of twenty years and upward to every woman of the same age. In the settled states of the East we find conditions among the convicts closely approaching those observed in Europe.

Feeling the importance of the home relations of the convicts as throwing light upon the incentives to crime, some of the reports descend more into particulars. Thus, in Joliet it was found that among 650 convicts eight had left their homes before the age of 5, 35 between the ages of 5 and 10, 136 between 10 and 15, 468 after 15, and three had never known home. Of similar importance is it to know the degree of parental restraint, partially indicated by ascertaining the number of orphans. On this point a few figures can be presented.

	Number.					Per Cent.				
	Both Parents Living.	Both Parents Dead.	Mother Living.	Father Living.	Unknown.	Both Parents Living.	Both Parents Dead.	Mother Living.	Father Living.	Unknown.
Illinois, Joliet.....	233	184	151	76	6	35.85	28.31	23.23	11.69	.92
Michigan.....	135	181	100	50		28.97	38.84	21.46	10.73	
California, San Quentin...	449	286	165	189	288	32.61	20.77	11.98	13.72	20.92
<i>Same when convicts were 16 years of age.</i>										
Eastern Pennsylvania....	323	42	83	62		63.33	8.24	16.27	12.16	
Western ".....	171	14	57	24		64.29	5.26	21.43	9.02	

We find from the above a very large number of cases where the parents are no longer living to exercise any restraint upon the vicious propensities of their offspring. But, as early training counts for so much, the plan of enumeration adopted in the Pennsylvania institutions is much superior to asking whether the parents of convicts are alive or dead at the time of conviction. In Pennsylvania we find a large proportion of orphans and half orphans.

Occupation is not without its influence upon crime, inasmuch as persons are more exposed to temptation in some callings than in others. A study of the data relating to employment cannot fail to bring out some interesting facts. Agriculture is generally believed to be conducive to virtue, and it undoubtedly presents few opportunities for crime. Hence we may not be surprised to see its proportion low. On the other hand, there is difficulty in separating agricultural laborers from laborers not specified, the latter being included under personal services. This caused some inaccuracies in the census, and in the prison reports no attempt even to make the distinction appears. In the lists of occupations agricultural laborers do not appear. What a large proportion of those included under professional and personal services is made up of laborers can be seen from the table under special classes. Trade and transportation furnish more than their share of criminals, except in the Massachusetts Reformatory, in Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, California, Virginia, North Carolina, and Texas. The Massachusetts Reformatory deals with offenders of a more or less special class, and a large number are too young to have any occupation. The other exceptions are in the West and South, and the fact can only be explained by supposing for those engaged in these pursuits a much higher degree of mental and moral development than the great mass of the population. As to the last class, those engaged in manufacturing, mechanical, and mining occupations, their greater opportunities lead them into a greater proportion of crime than their

Prison Statistics of the United States for 1888.

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	Occupation.					Special Classes.										Occupations. Per Cent.					Occupations in Populat'n in 1880. Per Cent.*				
	Agriculture.	Professional and Personal.	Trade and Transportation.	Manufacturing, Mechanical & Mining.	Criminal.	None.	Laborers.	Barbers.	Waiters.	Saloon and Bar-keepers.	Clerks and Book-keepers.	Teamsters.	Butchers.	Painters.	Shoemakers.	Agriculture.	Professional and Personal.	Trade and Transportation.	Manufacturing, Mechanical & Mining.	Criminal.	None.				
Maine.....	21	138	64	272	111	95	5	8	3	15	17	2	12	56	3.47	22.77	10.56	44.88	..	..	18.32	9	24	16	51
New Hampshire.....	31	482	361	508	13	276	16	60	23	60	118	28	31	30	2.21	34.31	25.69	36.16	71	..	..	..	..	..	..
Vermont.....	85	498	243	416	6	362	32	43	9	52	65	19	44	49	6.81	39.91	19.47	33.53	..	..	48	20	29	..	..
Massachusetts.....	21	98	43	70	..	72	5	8	..	10	5	2	8	7	9.05	42.24	18.54	30.17	..	..	..	21	31	12	36
Connecticut.....	2	111	33	118	2	96	8	4	6	14	2	3	1	2	.75	41.73	12.41	44.36	..	..	75	21	31	12	36
New York, Sing Sing.....	55	368	165	206	..	245	29	14	7	38	31	4	38	9	6.93	46.35	20.78	25.94	..	..	..	40	25	10	25
New York, Auburn.....	81	226	53	159	20	184	10	5	3	8	10	5	22	19	15.03	41.93	9.83	29.50	..	..	3.71	52	22	9	17
Illinois, Joliet (3).....	87	229	152	176	16	124	8	23	4	44	30	10	15	16	13.18	34.69	23.03	26.67	..	..	2.43	44	23	13	20
Illinois, Chester.....	136	96	39	66	3	62	5	4	..	5	7	2	4	6	40.00	28.24	11.47	19.41	..	..	88	..	..	..	..
Michigan (4).....	78	151	102	136	..	116	8	6	14	10	35	5	17	15	16.70	32.33	21.84	29.13	..	..	..	42	25	10	23
Wisconsin.....	20	97	37	57	..	73	3	1	3	4	4	..	12	8	9.48	45.97	17.54	27.01	..	..	..	47	23	9	21
Minnesota.....	5	103	42	62	2	66	10	..	4	9	15	2	32	8	2.34	48.13	19.63	28.97	..	..	93	52	23	10	15
Missouri (5).....	287	622	168	446	1	415	30	29	3	41	67	16	22	108	18.83	40.82	11.02	29.26	.07	..	..	51	21	12	16
Kansas.....	89	78	31	84	34	38	8	..	7	9	5	4	6	3	28.16	24.68	9.81	26.58	..	..	10.77	59	19	10	12
Nebraska.....	53	209	53	130	1	134	8	21	5	13	11	3	10	13	13.09	35.31	18.27	33.33	..	..	..	13	25	15	47
Colorado.....	44	39	10	25	11	28	1	..	1	..	4	1	2	..	14.14	39.40	10.10	25.25	..	..	11.11	13	32	14	41
Nevada.....	101	704	195	377	..	388	27	30	10	35	42	16	15	31	7.33	51.13	14.16	27.38	..	..	..	21	32	15	32
California, San Quentin.....	28	203	53	130	1	134	8	21	5	13	11	3	10	13	6.65	49.64	12.59	30.88	..	..	..	21	32	15	32
California, Folsom.....	93	298	104	90	7	169	9	34	8	14	7	4	3	14	15.71	50.34	17.57	15.20	..	..	1.18	28	31	15	26
Maryland.....	48	283	11	30	..	255	4	1	..	2	..	3	3	6	12.90	76.08	2.96	8.06	..	..	..	51	30	6	13
Virginia.....	347	781	68	147	..	730	10	..	4	9	15	2	32	8	25.84	58.15	5.06	10.95	..	..	..	66	21	5	8
Tennessee (6).....	2	486	7	31	2	456	2	8	..	2	..	..	3	3	.38	92.05	1.32	5.87	..	..	..	75	14	3	8
North Carolina.....	362	127	31	26	..	89	1	18	..	2	..	1	4	..	66.30	23.26	5.68	4.76	..	..	..	75	16	4	5
South Carolina.....	254	353	67	72	2	200	3	3	2	2	4	4	..	3	34.32	45.81	9.05	9.73	..	..	..	77	16	3	4
Alabama.....	6	199	97	271	27.29	51	..	..	12	17	..	16	31	16	.18	6.03	2.94	8.21	..	..	82.04	69	19	7	5
Texas.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

Totals.—(1) 606. (2) 232. (3) 660. (4) 467. (5) 1,524. (6) 1,343. * From Scribner's Statistical Atlas.

number would lead us to expect. Exceptions to the rule are found again in the Massachusetts Reformatory, in Colorado, Nevada, California, and in all the southern states, except Tennessee, Alabama, and Texas. As for the Reformatory and the southern states, the explanations given above apply here also, while in the West it is probable that many engaged in mining have been classed as "laborers."

Certain special occupations, which for one reason or another are supposed to contribute largely to the criminal population, have been introduced into Table V. It would lead us too far from the main topic to pursue further this branch of the inquiry.

Certain states give a few figures upon apprenticeship. It seems to us that they are unduly emphasized, and show rather the decadence of the apprentice system than anything else. The data are subjoined.

	Number.				Per Cent.			
	Unapprenticed.	Apprenticed and Left.	Apprenticed and Served.	Acquired Trade without Apprenticeship.	Unapprenticed.	Apprenticed and Left.	Apprenticed and Served.	Acquired Trade without Apprenticeship.
Eastern Pennsylvania	401	7	56	46	78.63	1.37	10.98	9.02
Western " "	201	1	28	36	75.56	.38	10.53	13.53
Maryland	559	17	16	..	94.43	2.87	2.70	....

Besides the general matters thus far treated certain special data have been collected in some of the reports. Thus, there are generally returns upon the educational status of prisoners and some of their habits.

Unfortunately, statistics are able only to grasp a certain minimum of education to determine the amount of illiteracy, but cannot go much beyond this. Our figures in Table VI show us plainly that the illiterate classes furnish much more than their proportion of the criminal classes. Throughout the percentage of those who can neither read nor write is much larger in prisons than in the population at large.

Table VI.

EDUCATION AND HABITS.

	Education.			Per Cent.			Use of Liquor.			Per Cent.		
	Read and Write.	Read Only.	Neither.	Read and Write.	Read Only.	Neither.	Temperate.	Moderate.	Intemperate.	Temperate.	Moderate.	Intemperate.
Maine.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
New Hampshire.....	101	3	11	87.83	2.61	9.56	39	...	76	33.91	...	66.09
Vermont.....	81	3	10	86.17	3.19	10.64	57	...	37	60.64	...	49.36
Massachusetts.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Reformatory (1).....	514	40	52	84.82	6.60	8.58	...	...	...	...	...	...
Connecticut (2).....	266	15	27	86.36	4.87	8.77	...	...	...	...	...	...
New York, Sing Sing.....	1,290	5	110	91.81	.36	7.83	188	...	1,217	13.38	...	86.62
" Auburn.....	1,020	97	131	81.73	7.77	10.50	384	230	634	30.77	18.43	50.80
" Clinton.....	191	15	27	81.97	6.44	11.59	52	90	91	22.32	38.63	39.05
Pennsylvania, Eastern.....	430	80	...	84.31	...	15.69	121	232	157	23.73	45.49	30.78
" Western.....	200	43	23	75.19	16.16	8.65	24	107	131	12.78	36.47	50.75
New Jersey.....	701	47	133	79.57	5.33	15.10	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ohio.....	628	76	90	79.09	9.57	11.34	238	...	556	29.97	...	70.03
Indiana, North.....	602	32	68	85.75	4.56	9.69	120	...	582	17.09	...	82.91
" South.....	373	35	13	69.20	6.49	24.31	171	243	125	31.73	45.08	23.19
Illinois, Joliet.....	522	71	57	80.31	10.92	8.77	194	301	155	29.84	46.31	23.85
" Chester.....	255	16	69	75.00	4.71	20.29	51	223	66	15.00	65.59	19.41
Michigan.....	303	16	57	84.33	3.43	12.24	119	90	257	25.54	19.31	55.15
Wisconsin.....	190	5	16	90.05	2.37	7.58	35	106	70	16.59	50.24	33.17
Minnesota.....	196	5	13	91.59	2.34	6.07	89	22	103	41.59	10.28	48.13
Missouri.....	1,137	98	288	74.66	6.43	18.91	889	...	634	58.37	...	41.63
Kansas.....	790	79	60	85.04	8.50	6.46	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nebraska.....	189	127	...	59.81	...	40.19	122	70	124	38.61	22 15	39.24
Colorado.....	363	14	28	89.63	3.46	6.91	123	...	282	30.37	...	69.63
Nevada.....	84	3	12	84.85	3.03	12.12	28	64	7	28.28	64 65	7.07
California, San Quentin.....	1,100	59	218	79.88	4.28	15 84	80	50	647	49.38	3.63	46.99
" Folsom.....	359	11	51	85.27	2.61	12.12	...	...	...	...	...	...
Maryland.....	372	37	183	62.84	6.25	30.91	111	305	176	18.75	51.52	29.73
Virginia.....	159	26	187	42.74	6.99	50.27	150	123	99	40.32	33.06	26.62
West Virginia.....	61	55	...	52.59	...	47.41	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tennessee.....	...	...	936	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
North Carolina.....	131	39	358	24.81	7.09	67.80	...	...	...	...	...	...
South Carolina.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alabama.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Texas.....	1,242	2060	...	37.61	...	62.39	1,260	...	2,042	38.16	...	61.84

Totals.—(1) 606. (2) 315 on June 15, 1888.

NOTE. The classification respecting the use of liquors varies. An attempt has been made to assimilate the data to those used above. Where there is no entry under Moderate, it is to be understood that the classification Temperate and Intemperate is used. In New York, Sing Sing, "Use liquors and do not use" are considered equivalent to these. Virginia uses "Abstinent" instead of Temperate. Pennsylvania and Maryland use "Abstinent," and distinguish Intemperate and Occasionally Intemperate, and the sum of the latter two figures is included under Intemperate in the above table. In California, San Quentin, 600, or 43.57 per cent, of the prison population are classed as Opium Eaters.

Some measure of the attainments of the rest may be found in the fact of the very large proportion who can read and not write, as compared with the same category in the population generally. As for those who can both read and write, a statistical measure of their capacity is lacking. It would be well if all the reports contained figures, giving the number of years of school attendance, as is the case at Joliet.

The following figures show how little education has been enjoyed by the convicts in this latter institution : —

Did not attend school, . . .	59	Attended 5 years,	77
Attended 1 year or less, . .	65	“ 6 “	35
“ 2 years,	76	“ 6 “ and more, 80	
“ 3 “	140		
“ 4 “	118		
		Total,	650

The relation of temperance to crime has been discussed at such length that it is not surprising to find data upon the subject. And yet, with varying conceptions of what is to be understood under intemperance, no subject needs more delicate treatment. It is evident that the value of data collected under this head must depend entirely upon the care which is expended upon their collection. Where, as in Philadelphia, a system of individual treatment is pursued, the figures may be considered as accurate. Indeed, the figures for Philadelphia for a series of years, as follows, show the regularity which is strong presumption of their correctness.

Year.	Total.	Number.				Per Cent.			
		Abstainers.	Moderate.	Occasionally Temperate.	Intemperate.	Abstainers.	Moderate.	Occasionally Intemperate.	Intemperate.
1883	490	95	233	157	5	19.39	47.55	32.04	1.02
1884	479	74	198	199	8	15.45	41.34	41.14	1.67
1885	564	98	249	215	2	17.38	44.15	38.12	.35
1886	552	97	262	192	1	17.57	47.47	34.78	.18
1887	560	113	247	189	11	20.18	44.11	33.75	1.96
1888	510	121	232	154	3	23.72	45.49	30.20	.59

Elsewhere, even in well-ordered prisons, such as those of Illinois, we do not observe the same regularity, as appears from the following percentages:—

Year.	Joliet.			Chester.		
	Temperate.	Moderate.	Intemperate.	Abstinent.	Moderate.	Intemperate.
1885	13.46	71.24	15.30	.....	.....	.....
1886	28.00	38.02	33.98	23.28	61.38	15.34
1887	23.20	43.89	32.91	18.41	56.32	25.27
1888	29.84	46.31	23.85	15.00	65.59	19.41

In the above figures we have an apt illustration of the contingencies upon which these data depend, as the year 1886 marked the advent of a new chaplain at Joliet. If we needed further proof of the unreliability of these figures, we have only to note in our table the great differences in the figures for separate prisons in the same state. Whereas, no one will deny the relation of intemperance to crime, the statistician must examine carefully the value of the data presented. It is also a matter of regret that there are no means of comparing the data for prisons with the facts for the population.

The habits of the convicts in regard to tobacco are subjects of inquiry in some reports. It will surely surprise no one that tobacco habits are largely prevalent among criminals; nor will anyone be inclined to draw conclusions from the fact.

USE OF TOBACCO.

	Number.		Per Cent.	
	Users.	Non-Users.	Users.	Non-Users.
New York, Sing Sing.....	1,355	50	96.44	3.56
“ Clinton.....	219	14	93.99	6.01
Ohio.....	637	157	80.23	19.77
Minnesota.....	202	12	94.39	5.61
Colorado.....	376	29	92.84	7.16
Texas.....	2,635	667	79.89	20.20

Some few reports occupy themselves with the religious belief of the convicts, and generally under this heading.

In Ohio the church of the parents is given, and in Wisconsin the religious instruction. Among the data given in Table VII we note that the category of those having no religious belief is in some cases very large, as in Missouri, Tennessee, and Illinois, whereas elsewhere it does not appear at all. The percentage of Catholic is quite high, and would, undoubtedly, be high in comparison with figures for the population, if we possessed such. This is caused in large part by the nationality and economic condition of those adhering to this faith. Not less striking is the small number of Hebrews, although it is generally known that they furnish a relatively small contingent to the prisons.

It is of equal importance to know how far religious training is disseminated, which some reports show by giving the attendance at Sunday Schools as follows : —

	Number.		Per Cent.	
	Attended.	Did not Attend.	Attended.	Did not Attend.
Ohio.....	654	140	82.37	17.63
Illinois, Joliet.....	507	143	78.00	22.00
California, San Quentin.....	1007	370	73.13	26.87
Maryland.....	325	267	54.90	45.10

Turning now from the criminals to the crimes which they have committed, we experience some difficulty in obtaining an appropriate classification. Although found in none of the reports, that adopted by the United States Census seemed the most scientific, and has been used here. In the reports the usual classification is Crimes against the Person, and Crimes against Property. In such cases much that falls under Crimes against Society is classed with Crimes against the Person. In Table VIII a few considerations attach to the larger groups. The relation of crimes against the person to those against property afford a curious study. Even in parts of the country not far distant from each other, as, for in-

Table VII.

RELIGIOUS BELIEF.

	Religious Belief.				None.	Protestants.													Religious Belief. Per Cent.					
	Catholic.	Protestant.	Jewish.	Unclassified.		Adventist.	Baptist.	Campbellite.	Christian.	Congregational.	Disciples.	Episcopal.	Friends.	Lutherans.	Methodists.	Presbyterian.	United Brethren.	Universalist.	Others.	Catholic.	Protestant.	Jewish.	Unclassified.	None.
New Hampshire.....	51	64	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	44.35	55.65	..	..	....
Vermont.....	26	68	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	27.66	72.34	..	..	....
Pennsylvania, Western...	86	160	..	10	10	16	..	..	..	8	..	..	27	79	30	..	..	..	32.33	60.15	..	3.76	3.76	
Ohio.....	185	527	4	1	77	3	113	..	14	20	18	8	3	29	235	50	13	2	19	23.30	66.37	.51	.13	9.69
Illinois, Joliet.....	133	69	..	..	448	..	5	1	2	..	..	17	..	26	14	3	1	..	20.46	10.62	..	..	68.92	
“ Chester.....	49	112	..	1	78	..	65	..	16	..	..	2	..	8	92	19	2	..	7	20.42	46.67	..	.42	32.49
Wisconsin.....	83	81	..	..	47	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	39.34	38.39	..	..	22.27	
Minnesota.....	90	119	1	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	42.06	55.61	.47	..	1.86	
Missouri.....	253	217	4	..	1,049	..	51	4	14	..	..	12	..	29	67	21	..	..	19	16.61	14.25	.26	..	68.88
Nebraska.....	74	118	2	..	122	..	12	..	8	3	..	5	1	19	33	10	1	..	26	23.42	37.34	.63	..	38.60
California, San Quentin..	591	399	12	180	195	..	51	..	..	..	..	76	..	63	81	71	..	57	..	42.92	28.98	.87	13.07	14.16
Tennessee.....	27	203	5	..	1,128	1	119	..	9	..	..	2	..	..	61	9	1	..	..	1.98	14.89	.37	..	82.76

NATURE OF CRIME.

Table VIII.

	CRIMES.						PERCENTAGES.					
	Against Gov't.		Against Society.				Against the Person.		Against Property.			
	Its Existence.	Its Operations.	Public Health.	Public Justice.	Public Morals.	Public Peace.	Public Policy.	Public Health.	Public Justice.	Public Morals.	Public Peace.	Public Policy.
Maine*	1	1	1	1	2	1	3	55	88	.66	1.32	1.97
New Hampshire	..	..	1	1	9	..	4	25	76	.87	7.83	3.48
Vermont	..	..	1	4	6	..	2	21	60	4.26	6.38	2.13
Massachusetts	1	1	1	1	4	..	..	25	129	.62	2.50	..
" Reformatory (1)	3	3	..	264	127	..	..	27	251	.45	39.29	..
Connecticut	3	3	3	8	16	16	16	91	179	1.00	2.67	5.33
New York, Sing Sing	3	4	3	19	8	8	3	276	1,092	.29	1.35	.21
New York, Auburn (3)	8	16	16	25	1	1	1	362	1,006	1.18	1.84	.07
" Clinton	..	2	7	7	1	1	..	45	178	.86	3.00	.43
Pennsylvania, Eastern	10	5	9	19	1	1	22	99	359	1.96	3.73	4.31
" Western	17	15	27	..	..	..	..	70	164	1.88	3.38	.38
New Jersey	16	15	27	..	..	..	..	293	530	1.70	3.06	..
Ohio	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	162	512	..	1.85	..
Indiana, North	13	2	13	2	13	..	..	181	346	.28	1.48	..
" South	..	1	1	1	8	..	..	181	346	.19	1.85	..
Illinois, Joliet	8	5	12	5	12	..	..	111	514	.77	1.85	..
" Chester	19	4	4	4	4	..	..	63	250	1.18	1.18	..
Michigan	1	3	31	3	31	..	..	138	173	.87	8.96	..
Wisconsin	..	2	7	2	7	..	..	48	154	.95	3.32	..
Minnesota	..	1	6	1	6	..	..	34	173	.47	2.80	..
Missouri	23	17	28	17	28	..	..	270	1,185	1.12	1.84	..
Kansas (2)	3	8	27	8	27	..	..	214	635	.90	3.04	..
Nebraska	3	..	3	..	3	..	..	57	253	..	.95	..
Colorado	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nevada	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
California, San Quentin	7	1	11	1	11	..	..	48	39	1.01	11.11	..
" Folsom	1	12	14	12	14	..	..	428	916	.87	1.02	..
Maryland	9	4	3	4	3	..	..	105	308	.95	.71	..
Virginia	..	1	6	1	6	1	1	135	440	1.52	1.01	.17
West Virginia	..	3	7	3	7	..	..	124	238	.81	1.88	..
Tennessee	3	7	1	7	1	1	1	25	86	..	.86	..
North Carolina	1	7	15	7	15	..	..	360	980	.51	1.10	..
South Carolina	..	5	12	5	12	..	..	46	465	.95	2.27	..
"	..	25	25	25	25	..	..	140	349	.92	4.58	..
"	..	19	95	19	95	..	..	905	405	1.69	3.98	.37

stance, Connecticut and Pennsylvania, essentially different ratios are found even after making allowance for the different modes of enumeration. Differences in the law and its administration seem more probable explanations than differences of character. In a very general way it has been observed that the more settled the population, the more advanced in civilization, the greater is likely to be the proportion of crimes against property. Slight corroboration of this is found in the fact that the largest percentages of crimes against the person are found in Maine, Michigan, Nevada, and Alabama. Why, on the other hand, it should be so high in Connecticut, New Jersey, and Southern Indiana does not appear. In the South we naturally expect a larger percentage of crimes against the person than in the North.

The penalties inflicted as punishments for crime vary greatly in the various states, as appears clearly from Table IX. The reason for this is so much within the sphere of the law itself and its administration that the table scarcely gives rise to conclusions of a purely sociological nature. For the student of criminal law it offers much food for reflection, presupposing, however, a very accurate knowledge of the details of the law in each state. Even the casual reader must, however, be struck by such differences as are shown in the table between the two penitentiaries of Pennsylvania, or between the adjoining states of Wisconsin and Minnesota.

No question in the whole range of prison statistics is more important than the statistics of Previous Convictions, for they furnish a certain measure for the efficacy of the whole penal system. But at this point our data are lamentably inadequate. In most cases we are not informed what previous convictions are counted. In Auburn, N. Y., it seems probable that previous terms in county prisons are counted. Elsewhere, if we can judge by the analogy with European prisons where the number of first offenders is uniformly much less, only previous terms in state prisons have been

Table X.

CONVICTIONS.

	Convictions.										Per Cent.†				
	First.	Second.	Third.	Fourth.	Fifth.	Sixth.	Seventh.	Eighth.	Ninth.	Tenth and More.	First.	Second.	Third.	Fourth.	Fifth.
Maine.....	133	12	5	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	87.50	7.89	3.29	....	.66
New Hampshire.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Vermont.*.....	85	5	3	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	90.42	5.32	3.19	....	1.07
Massachusetts.....	138	13	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	86.25	8.13	5.62	....	...
" Reformatory.	349	138	96	33	22	7	11	3	3	11	51.86	20.50	14.27	4.90	3.27
Connecticut.....	265	24	9	1	..	..	2	..	..	..	88.04	7.97	2.99	.33	...
New York, Sing Sing ..	1,098	187	78	27	8	3	2	..	..	2	78.15	13.31	5.55	1.92	.57
" Auburn.....	697	334	143	50	11	11	2	..	..	..	55.85	26.76	11.46	4.00	.88
" Clinton.....	189	31	8	2	2	..	1	..	..	..	81.12	13.32	3.43	.86	.86
Pennsylvania, Eastern..	317	91	48	25	13	10	2	2	..	2	62.15	17.84	9.42	4.90	2.25
" Western.....	221	29	12	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	83.08	10.90	4.51	.75	.76
New Jersey (1).....	738	95	31	10	3	3	..	..	..	..	83.86	10.80	3.52	1.14	.34
Ohio.....	698	77	16	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	87.91	9.70	2.01	.38	...
Indiana, North.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" South.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Illinois, Joliet.....	565	62	17	5	..	1	..	..	..	..	86.92	9.54	2.62	.77	...
" Chester.....	303	31	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	89.12	9.12	.88	.88	...
Michigan.....	341	91	22	8	1	..	3	..	..	..	73.17	19.53	4.72	1.72	.21
Wisconsin.....	190	19	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	90.05	9.00	.95	....	...
Minnesota.....	187	25	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	87.38	11.68	.94	....	...
Missouri*.....	1,338	151	22	8	2	1	..	..	..	1	87.85	9.91	1.44	.53	.13
Kansas.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nebraska.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Colorado.....	371	28	4	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	91.60	6.91	.99	.50	...
Nevada.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
California, San Quentin	1,096	170	68	25	5	9	2	2	..	..	79.59	12.35	4.94	1.82	.36
" Folsom.....	321	76	14	4	2	2	2	..	..	..	76.25	18.05	3.33	.95	.48
Maryland.....	502	65	14	7	2	1	1	..	..	..	84.80	10.98	2.36	1.18	.34
Virginia.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
West Virginia.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tennessee.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
North Carolina.....	481	39	6	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	91.10	7.39	1.14	.37	...
South Carolina.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alabama.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Texas.....	2,994	264	44	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	90.67	7.99	1.34	....	...

Totals: (1) 880. * Convictions to this prison. † Not calculated beyond the "fifth."

counted. On the other hand, the decentralization of prison management in this country renders the collection of these data very difficult. Hence, the data which have been presented lack entirely the definiteness so essential for statistical conclusions.

Throughout the foregoing paper the aim has been to present, rather than to utilize for any special purpose, the statistics of prisons for the year 1888. The data for a single year are obviously insufficient for a searching analysis of the phenomena of crime. Yet a basis for future studies has been made. The progress of statistical inquiry is to establish first broad general rules, and afterwards to descend to a more detailed examination of the deviations from them. In the foregoing pages we have had a glimpse at some of the general rules relating to crime, if we can assume a single year, 1888, as typical. This the statistician is always privileged to do, unless there is strong evidence to rebut the assumption. The analogy with European countries which have carefully elaborated criminal statistics is sufficiently close to warrant us in believing that in presenting the statistics for the year 1888 we have a fair picture of the sociologically important characteristics of the convicts of the United States.

Incidentally, therefore, it has been demonstrated how much light prison reports throw upon the subject of crime. The data which they present must, upon closer consideration, strike one as singularly uniform. The development of the statistical portions of the reports seems to be wholly in the discretion of the officials in charge. Hence, it would be, indeed, surprising if there was not a considerable variety. In surveying the field with a view to obtaining greater uniformity, one meets with difficulties of various degrees. In a number of cases the same data are collected, but grouped differently in the different reports. In some reports subjects are omitted which are to be found in others. As a rule, there is too little explanatory matter, so that in some cases, as for instance in regard to previous convictions, one is entirely at sea as to the meaning of the figures presented. In each report a statement is desirable as to the relations of the state prison and the smaller prisons of the state.

A still greater bar to uniformity is the different periods of time to which the data relate. This is caused by the various

financial years of the various states, to which the financial showings of the prisons must necessarily conform. But with regard to the personal statistics the same necessity does not exist. In fact, for such purposes the calendar year seems more appropriate than any fiscal year. Nor can we conceive of any serious disadvantages arising from having the accounts relate to one year, and the details of the personal statistics to another. If, by a combination of those interested, the statistics could be obtained relating to a uniform time, a basis would be gained for a closer systematical study of crime in this country, which could not fail to be of advantage. Next in importance would be a uniform basis of enumeration for all the prisons. For the purposes which are here contemplated, the number received during the previous year should be the basis. It would of course be desirable to have also the number remaining at the end of the year enumerated also. Yet if only one method were followed the former would be preferable; and to know the actual population of the prisons we could rely upon the census.

What is here proposed is the perfecting of existing methods. When this is accomplished it may be in order to call attention to possible future developments of prison statistics. Indeed, the perfection of what we now possess will naturally lead to a desire for more definite knowledge where it seems obtainable. The increased attention paid to the study of crime, and the greater unity of effort brought about by the prison congresses lead us to hope that it will not be long before the modest wishes here expressed are realized.

NOTE TO

PRISON STATISTICS OF THE UNITED STATES FOR 1880.

In the discussion upon the paper President Walker suggested that the unfavorable showing of the foreign born element might perhaps be more apparent than real. Among the foreign born the number of children is insignificant, and hence the table presented compares a grown up population with one containing all age classes, and especially strong in children. Acting upon this suggestion a more minute examination of the question was made, resulting in the following table:—

	Percentage of Foreign Born Among Prisoners.	Percentage of Foreign Born Among Male Pop'n over 18 Years of Age, 1880.		Percentage of Foreign Born Among Prisoners.	Percentage of Foreign Born Among Male Pop'n over 18 Years of Age, 1880.
Maine	22.34	11.19	Wisconsin	28.44	51.69
New Hampshire.....	29.57	15.38	Minnesota.....	28.97	55.05
Vermont.....	22.34	14.29	Missouri	9.49	18.76
Massachusetts	29.37	29.08	Kansas.....	....	....
" Reformatory ..	22.44		Nebraska	23.42	31.27
Connecticut.....	23.26	24.44	Colorado.....	25.43	27.48
New York, Sing Sing...	28.11	35.75	Nevada.....	33.33	44.02
" Auburn.....	26.04		California, San Quentin.	40.01	35.89
" Clinton.....	25.00		" Folsom.....	39.43	
Pennsylvania, Eastern..	23.92	22.96	Maryland	6.93	15.33
" Western.....	22.93		Virginia	1.34	2.13
New Jersey.....	28.72	30.90	West Virginia.....	1.72	5.93
Ohio	9.57	21.24	Tennessee.....	1.83	2.46
Indiana, North.....	11.11	13.32	North Carolina.....	.95	.65
" South.....	6.31		South Carolina.....	....	....
Illinois, Joliet.....	25.23	32.35	Alabama.....	....	....
" Chester.....	7.96		Texas	13.56	13.88
Michigan.....	31.55	36.08	.....	....	....

We give here the percentage of foreign born prisoners as shown in Table III, and also that of the foreign born in the male population over 18 years of age, that is, in that part of the population from which the convict ranks are recruited, omitting the small number of female prisoners. We must frankly confess that the comparison points to very different conclusions from those noted in the text. In the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and California the foreign born make a worse showing than the native. In a great number of cases, notably Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and Tennessee, we notice hardly any difference. Elsewhere the showing is decidedly in favor of the foreign born, and nowhere more strongly than in Wisconsin and Minnesota, as shown even by the former tables. In many of these cases the age relations will probably explain many differences. Remembering that the prison population is made up more strongly from the age class 18-30 than from others, it will be seen how the foreign born, if less strong in this class than the native, would make a better general showing. The problems are more complex than would appear at first sight, and it is here indicated that the data require delicate treatment.

R. P. F.



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